

Pajaro River Watershed Long Term Drought Preparedness

ATTACHMENT 1: AUTHORIZATION AND ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Attachment 1 is mandatory and consists of authorization and eligibility documentation plus demonstration of project consistency with an adopted IRWM Plan, Urban Water Management Compliance, Agricultural Water Management Compliance, Surface Water Diverter Compliance, Groundwater Management Compliance, and CASGEM compliance.

1.4 PROJECT CONSISTENCY WITH AN ADOPTED IRWM PLAN

The SBCWD Hollister Hexavalent Chromium Compliance Project is an enhancement to the West Hills Water Project, a component of the Hollister Urban Area Water and Wastewater Master Plan (HUA). The HUA and West Hills Water Project was one of the highest ranking water supply projects in the 2014 Pajaro River Watershed IRWM Plan Update, as documented in Appendix D of the plan (see excerpt below).

Project	Total Score	
Watsonville Slough and North Dunes Recharge Basin	657	High
Harkins Slough Facility Recovery Optimization	647	High
Hollister Urban Area Water and Wastewater Master Plan	637	High
Integrated Aquifer Enhancement Program for the Pajaro Valley	624	High
Corralitos Creek Water Supply and Fisheries Enhancement	605	High
Regional Mobile Lab	586	High
Increased Watsonville Recycled Water Storage and Deliveries	583	High
Upper Llagas Creek Flood Protection Project	559	High
Pacheco Reservoir Reoperation	544	High

The City of Watsonville Hexavalent Chromium Treatment Project is consistent with the Pajaro River Watershed IRWM Plan and provides a direct water-related benefit to a DAC. The City of Watsonville hexavalent chromium water quality contamination was identified as a high priority water quality issue in the 2014 Pajaro River Watershed IRWM Plan Update. As described in Chapter 2 of the plan, the California State Water Resource Control Board (SWRCB) Division of Drinking Water (DDW), formerly the California Department of Public Health issued a final Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for hexavalent chromium [Cr(VI)] at 10 µg/L. Watsonville, a disadvantaged community, has six critical groundwater wells with Cr(VI) above the MCL and is actively pursuing long-term solutions for compliance with Cr(VI) MCL. Prior to 2014, the MCL for total chromium in California was 50 mg/L and all of Watsonville's wells met that drinking water standard. However, on July 1st, 2014 the new MCL for Cr(VI) became effective and the City must comply with the new standard to ensure a clean, safe water supply.

As described in Chapter 3 of the Pajaro River Watershed IRWM Plan, the Hexavalent Chromium Treatment Project addresses the following water supply and water quality objectives, including the targeted Disadvantaged Community objectives:

Water Supply

- Meet 100% of M&I and agriculture demands (both current and future conditions) in wet to dry years including the first year of a drought
- Meet 85% M&I and 75% agriculture demands (both current and future conditions) in second and subsequent years of a drought
- **Identify and address water supply needs of disadvantaged communities in the**

Pajaro River Watershed

Water Quality

- Meet or exceed all applicable groundwater, surface water, wastewater, and recycled water quality regulatory standards
- ***Identify and address the drinking water quality of disadvantaged communities in the Pajaro River Watershed***
- Protect groundwater resources from contamination including salts and nutrients

As documented in Chapter 6 of the IRWM Plan, projects that can provide flood protection, water supply, and water quality benefits to DACs will continue to be identified and grant monies will be sought to help offset project implementation costs. Although not included in the current IRWM project list, the City of Watsonville Hexavalent Chromium Treatment Project is consistent with the Pajaro River Watershed IRWM Plan and provides a direct water-related benefit to a DAC and therefore, is an eligible project for inclusion in the implementation grant application as allowed in the 2015 IRWM Implementation Grant Program Guidelines.